

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system that facilitates age verification of an individual, comprising:
a machine data reader, the machine data reader associated with a verification component that determines age-related data information at least in part upon encoded data on an identification card read by the machine data reader; and
a component that relays the age-related information to a point-of-sale system in a format that is compatible with the point-of sale system.
2. The system of claim 1, the machine data reader comprising a component that isolates and extracts age-related information from the encoded data.
3. The system of claim 1, the determined age relayed to the point-of-sale system as a known string.
4. The system of claim 3, the known string indexed to a lookup table within the point-of-sale system, and the point-of-service system executing a command based upon the entry.
5. The system of claim 4, the lookup table being a price lookup table.
6. The system of claim 1, the point-of-sale system comprising a display unit that displays the age-related data.
7. The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that automatically prohibits sale of at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services to a buyer who does not meet a requisite age.

8. The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that automatically delivers a notification to an authoritative body in an instance that a buyer who does not meet a requisite age attempts to purchase at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services.
9. The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that automatically generates a report in an instance that a buyer who does not meet a requisite age attempts to purchase at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services.
10. The system of claim 8, the report automatically delivered to an authoritative body.
11. The system of claim 1, the machine data reader being at least one of a barcode scanner and a magnetic stripe reader.
12. The system of claim 1, the age-related information being a range of ages.
13. The system of claim 1, the age-related information being an age.
14. The system of claim 1, the verification component comprising a real-time clock, the age-related information at least partially determined by comparing age information extracted from the identification card to a current date as calculated by the real-time clock.
15. The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that searches a list of individuals wanted by an authoritative body, the list comprising data relating to the individuals, and the search performed by comparing the data relating to the individuals with the encoded data.
16. The system of claim 15, wherein the authoritative body wanting an individual is automatically contacted upon at least a partial match of data relating to the individual in the list and the encoded data.

17. The system of claim 1, the identification card being one of a driver's license, a military identification card, a credit card, a debit card, and a smart card.
18. A method for verifying an age of an individual, comprising:
 - providing a machine data reader;
 - extracting data relating to an individual from an identification card *via* the machine data reader;
 - determining age-related information of an individual identified by the identification card based at least in part upon the extracted data; and
 - generating a string that is received by a point-of-sale system, the string identifying at least one of an age and range of ages of the individual.
19. The method of claim 17, further comprising informing a seller of age-restricted goods of at least one of the individual's age and a range of ages that the individual's age resides.
20. The method of claim 19, the seller informed of the at least one of the individual's age and the range of ages that the individual's age resides by a display of the point-of-service system.
21. The method of claim 18, the age-related information at least partially determined by comparing age information within the extracted data to a current date.
22. The method of claim 18, further comprising:
 - indexing the string to a lookup table within the point-of-sale system; and
 - initiating a command corresponding to the indexing.
23. The method of claim 18, further comprising automatically prohibiting sale of at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services to the individual if the individual does not meet a requisite age.

24. The method of claim 18, further comprising automatically notifying an authoritative body when the individual does not meet a requisite age and attempts to illegally purchase at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services.
25. The method of claim 18, further comprising automatically generating a report when the individual does not meet a requisite age and attempts to illegally purchase at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services.
26. The method of claim 25, the report comprising the individual's name, age, and the at least one of age-restricted goods and age-restricted services that the individual attempted to purchase.
27. The method of claim 18, further comprising:
searching a list of individuals wanted by at least one of an international, federal, state, and local authoritative body, the list comprising data related to the individuals;
comparing the data related to the individuals with the extracted data; and
automatically contacting the at least one of the international, federal, state, and local authoritative body upon at least a partial match between the extracted data and the data related to the individuals.
28. A system that verifies an age of an individual, comprising:
a machine data reader that reads encoded information from an identification card related to an individual, the encoded information comprising a birth date, and the machine data reader comprising:
a real-time clock that determines a current date;
a component that compares the birth date with the current date; and
a component that generates a string that is acceptable by a point-of-sale system, the string based at least in part upon the comparison between the birth date and the current date.

29. The system of claim 28, the point-of-sale system receives the string and indexes the string to a lookup table, and data at least partially based upon the comparison between the birth date and the current date is relayed to a seller upon indexing the string to the lookup table.

30. The system of claim 29, the lookup table further indexing strings that identify at least one of items and services that are sold at the point-of-sale system, wherein age-restricted items are flagged.

31. The system of claim 30, an individual prevented from buying age-restricted goods and/or services when the individual does not meet a requisite age based at least in part upon the flags.

32. The system of claim 31, the encoded data comprising data not related to age.

33. The system of claim 32, further comprising a component that isolates the birth date from the data not related to age and extracts the birth date.

34. The system of claim 28, the machine data reader comprising a bar code scanner, the bar code scanner scans barcodes relating to at least one of a good and a service sold at a point-of-sale system.